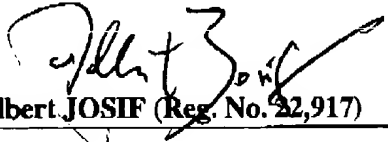


Agent's Docket N. 34816/RI/rf

OFFICIAL

I hereby certify that this correspondence (Total Pages: 11) is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (001)(703) 872-9310 / 872-9618) on the date shown below.

Milan,
February 17, 2003


Albert JOSIF (Reg. No. 22,917)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : MORTARI, Graziano
Ser. No. : 09/878,216
Filed : June 12, 2001
For : INJECTOR, PARTICULARLY FOR ...
Group A.U. : 1725
Examiner : LIN, KUANG Y

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D. C. 20231 U. S. A.

Dear Sirs,

This is in response to the Examiner's Communication dated January 16, 2003 – Paper No. 5- Form PTO-90C.

First of all, it should be noted that the envelope containing the above Communication reached the undersigned agent only today, February 17, 2003, i.e. about one month from the mailing date of said Communication.

The reason for this great delay appears to be the surface mailing of said envelope. In fact, on the envelope **no airmail mark is visible**, so that it may be assumed that the envelope was in fact surface mailed by the Office. A photocopy (front and rear) of said envelope is attached (as EXHIBIT 1) which confirms the above fact. **The date of receipt** of such Communication at the

offices of the undersigned agent is **stamped on the envelope** which contained the mentioned Communication dated January 16, 2003.

However, since the in the Examiner's Communication dated January 16, 2003 has been fixed a term of one-month for re-sending the Response to the Office Action as facsimile transmitted on December 24, 2002, Applicant believes that **the last day is today Monday February 17, 2003.**

Herewith attached, therefore, please find a complete copy of the response to the Office Action dated June 26, 2002, (Amendment), (**EXHIBIT 2**) as facsimile transmitted on December 24, 2002 and including a photocopy of the original "Transmission Result Report" for such original Amendment and Petition for Extension indicating the date ("24.DEC.2002") and time (15:46 hours local Milan time) of facsimile transmission, the answered telephone ("ADDRESS" USPTO), the number of pages sent ("PAGE." 6) and the result ("RESULT" - OK) of the transmission; (**EXHIBIT 3**).

Favorable action as far as the status of the Application is concerned, is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,


Albert JOSIF

(Reg. No. 22,917)

Agent for the Applicant

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Tel. 39.02.8590-7777

Milan: February 17, 2003